¶ Letters from the Lords of her Maieſties moſt

honourable priuie Counſell for the furniſhing and ſupplying of Horſes in

all Townes where the Poſtes are eſtabliſhed, for the reliefe of the Poſtes there, and furtherance of her Maieſties ſeruice. Directed

To all Maiors, Shiriffes, Iuſtices of the Peace, Bailifes, Conestables, Headborowes and all other her Maieſties officers Miniſters, and louing Subiects, to whom it may or ought to appertaine, and to euery of them.

The due execution whereof is alſo ſpecially recommended to the Lord Lieutenant of the Shire, and his ſeuerall Deputies.

FOraſmuch as ſpecial and extraordinary occaſions are ſundry times offered for the affaires of the State and ſeruice of her Maieſtie to ſend and diſpatch in Poſt, both by Packets and otherwiſe oftener and in greater numbers, then that the ordinary proviſion of the Poſt-maſters in their ſeuerall Stages is able to performe, with the expedition requiſite and at their handes required, as by their ſeuerall and ſundry complaints to their Maſter and Comptroller generall appeareth, and by him hath bene likewiſe intimated vnto vs; Theſe are therefore to will and require you, and in her Maieſties name to charge and commaund you and euery of you whom this may or ought to concerne, to be ayding and aſſiſting with your beſt countenances, authorities, and powers vnto the Poſt of that Stage when and as often as in her Maieſties behalfe he or any frō him ſhall repaire vnto you, And for his better reliefe to take preſent order and the like from time to time hereafter as the Seruice ſhall require, that as well within that Towne or Stage where the Poſt abideth, as from other places of the Countreys next adioyning within Liberties and without, the Coneſtables and other Officers prouide, take vp, and bring in, ſome tenne or twentie able and ſufficient horſes, (or ſome ſuch number more or leſſe, as the ſeruice ſhall import) with furniture conuenient to be there from ſixe dayes to ſix dayes, at their Owners charges held ready and at the direction of the Poſt of the place for the better performance of his duetie as well touching the Packet (his peculier charge) if his owne horſes be formerly imployed, as alſo for the ſpeedier horſeing away of ſuch ſpeciall perſons as in her Maieſties ſeruice ſhall ride in Poſt. Vnto the Owners of which horſes, the ſaid Poſt ſhall allow and pay from time to time ſuch rates and prices as he taketh for the hire of his owne. Hereof we require you and euery of you not to faile, as you will anſwere the contempt at your vttermoſt peril. From the Court at Greenewich the 11. of Aprill 1596.

Jo. Puckering. *R. Eſſex.*
H. Hunſdon. *W. Cobham.* *Tho. Buckhurſt.*
R. Cecile. *Jo. Forteſcu.*

WHereas we wrote our former Letters of the 11. of this moneth for the furtherance of her Maieſties ſeruice that horſes ſhould be ſupplied from out of the Townes, and Stages where Poſtes are layed, and Countreys adioyning to the reliefe of the ſaid Poſtes, whoſe ordinarie furniture oftentimes doth not ſuffice, we haue thought it eftſoones very requiſite, to will and require you, And in her Maieſties name more ſtreitly to commaund you and euery of you, to put our ſaid former Letters in due execution. Adding withall for the better contentment of the Owners of ſuch horſes ſo appointed to ſerue in their turnes, that no man whatſoeuer be ſuffred to runne or ride further then from one Stage to the next Stage without changing; And the rider to pay or ſatiſfie for the hire of his horſe or horſes afore hand, and at the firſt deliuery of them. And if any ſhall herein diſobey or contend, to ſignifie his name vnto vs. Requiring you and euery of you by the Coneſtables and other Officers to take note in writing of the names of all men keeping horſes within the Townes, villages, and countrey next adioyning to any Stage where the Poſts are placed, the better thereby to put in execution the true purpoſe and entent of our former Letters for the preſent occaſion of her Maieſties ſeruice and the affaires of the Realme, at the intimation and requeſts of the Poſts in their ſeuerall charges; wherein if any default ſhall be found by cunning, negligence, or other abuſe, in the Coneſtables, Officers, or owners of any horſes; to ſignifie the ſame to the Lord Lieutenant of the Shire, or his deputie or deputies, or (if neede be) to any of vs; or to M. Iohn Stanhope the Maſter or Comptroller generall of al her Highneſſe Poſtes. And hereof we eftſoones require you to haue that care that to your ſeuerall dueties and places belongeth, and as you tender her Maieſties ſeruice, and the ſtate of the Realme. From the Court at Greenewich the 20. of Aprll 1596.

John Puckering. *W. Burghley.*
W. Cobham. *T. Buckhurſt.*
R. Cecill. *Jo. Forteſcue.*

¶ Imprinted at London by the deputies of
Chriſtopher Barker, Printer to the Queenes moſt excellent Maieſtie. ANNO. 1596.